Anti-dumping duty on Indian steel

317. SHRI VAYALAR RAVI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the European Union and United States have imposed anti-dumping duty on Indian steel import;

(b) if so, what steps have been taken to save the Indian steel export to these countries; and

(c) whether these measures have been taken by European Union and United States only to save their domestic steel industry from the competition without any specific reasons for such measures?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b)The Indian industry has been defending the cases initiated against various companies and the Government has been providing active support to them. Government have taken up the issue with these Countries in various forums.

(c) On receipt of the complaints from the domestic industry, the European Commission and the Government of United States are responsible for conducting these investigations under the provisions laid down in the respective regulations for this purpose. Any investigation has to establish the existence of dumping and injury to the domestic industry of those countries and a casual link between the alleged dumping and injury.

Lifting of ban on export of EI tanned leather

318. SHRI NARENDRA MOHAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that lifting of ban on export of EI tanned leather by the Ministry of Commerce is adversely affecting the interests of leather export goods manufacturers and as a result their competitiveness in the international market will result in drastic reduction in export of India leather goods; and

(b) if so, whether this ban is being re-imposed or any other step being taken to safeguard the interests of India leather goods industry?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN): (a) and (b) The export of EI tanned hides and skins have been allowed vide Notification No. 45(RE-99)/l 997—2002 dated 13th January 2000

subject to registration of contracts with Council for Leather Exports indicating the price, quantity, etc. and on payment of export duty of 15% on such exports. As on 18.2.2000 no exporter has registered with Council for Leather Export for export of EI tanned leather. So far no adverse impact of amended policy on export of leather goods has come to the notice of the Govt.

Dumping of out-dated technologies by MNCs

319. SHRI VEDPRAKASH P. GOYAL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that MNCs are making India a dumping ground for out-dated and obsolete technologies;

(b) whether Government have conducted any survey in this regard or established any monitoring agency; and

(c) if so, the details thereof; and Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (DR. RAMAN): (a) Sir, the Indian companies have been given freedom to negotiate the terms of technology transfer with their foreign counterparts according to their commercial judgement. It is therefore, for the companies to decide whether the technology is relevant and competitive or not.

(b) No Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Export performance

320. SHRI VEDPRAKASH P. GOYAL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) how far exports in different sectors have picked-up/declined during the last two years, sector-wise; and

(b) what is the overall assessment of export performance with respect to different global market and major countries importing Indian goods?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN): (a) As per the Directorate General of Commercial Intelligence & Statistics data, the export performance of major sectors for the year 1997-98 and 1998-99 is as under:—